2012 Saginaw Bay Watershed Conference

March 16, 2012

Curtiss Hall, Saginaw Valley State University

Partnership for Saginaw Bay Watershed

Great Lakes RESTORATION

Michigan Office of the Great Lakes

EMCOG

DEQ

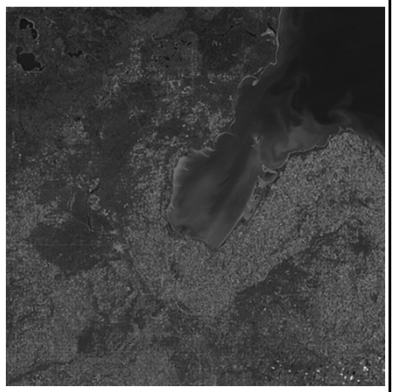
SBCI Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative

Conserving Land and Water Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY Planning & Zoning Center

WELCOME!

- Greetings from Sue Fortune, East Michigan Council of Governments
  - Background on EMCOG
  - Thanks for coming
- Wide range of stakeholder groups represented:
  - Water quality organizations
  - Local government officials
  - National and state conservation organizations
  - Faculty and students from colleges and universities
  - State and federal agency staff
  - Agricultural community
  - Private consulting companies
  - Private industries
  - Foundations



Thanks to all the Sponsors

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- Special thanks to the **Great Lakes Restoration Initiative**, a grant program of the Environmental Protection Agency. Without their support this conference would not be possible.

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Thanks to all the Exhibitors

- Business Soil
- East Michigan Council of Governments
- Michigan Citizen Planner
- Michigan Sea Grant Program, U. of Michigan
- Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy
- Spicer Group
- U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service
- Wade Trim
- Ducks Unlimited
- Huron Pines
- MSU Land Policy Institute
- Michigan Sea Grant Program, MSU Extension
- Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative
- University of Michigan, Flint
- U.S. Geological Survey
- Wilcox Associates, Inc.

Progress is Being Made

- The special focus of this conference is on the many activities presently underway to clean up or restore polluted waterways and wildlife habitat, and on new measures to prevent future pollution in the Basin.
- Some of these have been underway for decades, others were made possible only because of the GLRI.
- We have a ways to go, but it is easy to get caught up in bad news, and lose sight of the forward progress.
- Take some time today to celebrate forward progress, while remaining mindful of the challenges that remain.

Special Publication

- You will notice a special publication assembled by Public Sector Consultants for this conference in your packet. It details some of the progress that has been made and will be reviewed by one of our first speakers.
- Additional copies can be obtained by downloading the PDF at the project website.

Conference Logistics

- Tight agenda and we ask speakers to stay on time, and registrants to move promptly between sessions.
- Packet has a detailed agenda with room locations. All events are in this room and lunch room, except for three breakouts which are down the hall.
- Recorders are taking notes in each session for a brief summary of the conference that will be posted on conference website.
- Packet also has some handouts, survey form and special form we want you to complete and turn in.

Special Request

- As you listen today, think about
  - **Barriers** that remain to complete restoration of the Saginaw River and Bay, and prevent further contamination in the watershed
  - **Gaps** in present measures that need to be closed
  - **Opportunities** for new partnerships to move forward
  - **New ideas and strategies** that could be advanced with the next round of GLRI funding
- Please put your thought on the "Barriers/Gaps" sheet and turn in and participate in the last session of the day when some of these ideas will be discussed by a closing panel.
- We will post a tabulation of these ideas within a week on the project website at: www.landpolicy.msu.edu/SaginawBayWatershedConference

Turn in Surveys at Registration Table

- Before leaving please turn in your Barriers/Gaps survey form, AND the conference survey form at the registration table.
- We hope everyone leaves today with three new facts, impressions, or acquaintances than you knew or had before coming, and that you share this information, and build a new relationship as a result of today's program.
- Enjoy!

Keynote Speaker

- Cameron Davis, Sr. Advisor to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator
- A Federal View on GLRI Implementation

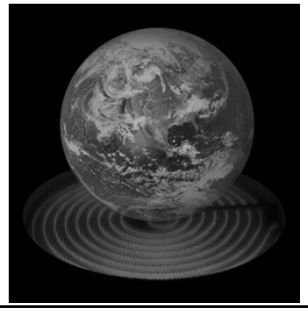
Progress in Improving Water Quality

- **History of the Area of Concern Designation** – Mark Coscarelli, Public Sector Consultants
- **Saginaw River/Bay, Area of Concern: Looking Forward** – Michelle Selzer, MDEQ
- **Natural Resources Damage Assessment & Restoration** — Joseph Haas, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Break

Climate Change -- Part One

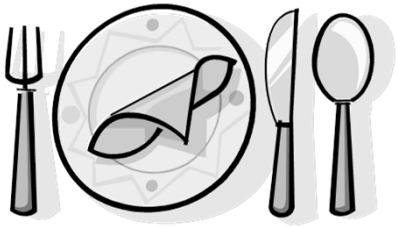
- **Projected Impacts on the Great Lakes** – Dr. Jeff Andresen, MSU Professor of Geography



Breakout Session I

- **Habitat Protection & Restoration** – Room ___
  - Rachael Franks-Taylor, TNC on the Lake Huron Biodiversity Conservation Strategy
  - Steve Pennington, TetraTech, West Lake Huron Watershed Management Plan, USACO
- **Water Quality Protection & Improvement** – Room __
  - Sara McDonnell, U of M Flint, Cass River Watershed Management Plan
  - Abigail Ertel, Huron Pines, Rifle River Watershed Restoration Project
- **Local Government & Site Development** – Room ___
  - Rick Falardeau, MDEQ, Updating Sanitary Codes
  - Laura Ogar, Bay County Environ. Affairs, New 5-County Code

Lunch



Climate Change – Part Two

- Adapting to Impacts on the Great Lakes – Dr. David Lusch, MSU Center for Remote Sensing

Breakout Session II

- **Habitat Protection & Restoration** – Room ___
  - Dane Cramer, Ducks Unlimited, Habitat Restoration
  - Steve Kahl, USFWS, Habitat Restoration Projects
- **Water Quality Protection & Improvement** – Room __
  - Joseph Rivet, Bay County Drain Commissioner, KawKawlin River Watershed Management Plan
  - Greg Renn & Tom Bennett, Huron Conservation District, Pigeon River Corridor Sediment Reduction Plan
- **Local Government & Site Development** – Room ___
  - Mark Wyckoff, PZC at MSU, Preventing Water Quality Problems with Local Planning & Zoning
  - Greg Eagle, Saginaw Basin Land Conservancy, Conservation Easements on Private Land

Breakout Session III

- **Habitat Protection & Restoration** – Room ___
  - Michell Vander Haar, USFWS on Invasive Species in Saginaw Bay
  - Wendy Ogilvie, FTCH and Barb Barton on Phragmites Management through Wild Rice Restoration
- **Water Quality Protection & Improvement** – Room __
  - Craig Stow, NOAA, Pollutant Behavior in Aquatic Ecosystems
  - Marc Verhougstraete, MSU Fisheries & Wildlife, Beach Muck Research in the Saginaw Bay
- **Local Government & Site Development** – Room ___
  - Russell Beaubien, Spicer Group, Fundamentals of Low Impact Development
  - Pat Sellenraad, Designscapes, Application of LID on Individual Sites

Panel Discussion

- Identify **barriers and gaps** to further the GLRI and related implementation efforts
- Identify **ideas/strategies** for the next round of GLRI funding for projects that advance restoration of the Saginaw River/Bay Area of Concern

Adjourn

- Thanks for coming!!!
- **Please turn in survey forms!**
- Please drive carefully!!!!!